

Appln. No. 10/645,683
Amendment dated October 21, 2005
Reply to Office Action mailed July 21, 2005

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims (deleted text being struck through and added text being underlined):

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for securing an electronic component within a chassis, comprising:

a frame including a pair of spaced apart brackets for accepting an electronic component therein;

a cover connected to the frame, said cover being configured so as to permit access to the accepted electronic component; and

a securing device mounted to at least one of the frame and the cover, for engaging the accepted electronic component within the frame;

wherein ~~operation of the securing device is configured so that closing the cover automatically causes the securing device to engage the accepted electronic component upon closing the cover and release ; and~~

wherein the securing device is biased toward a position that disengages the securing device from the accepted electronic component such that opening the cover releases the securing device from engagement upon opening the cover with the accepted electronic component.

2. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the securing device extends through the frame into engagement with a corresponding structure included in the accepted electronic component.

3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the securing device is a generally arcuate lever including a protrusion for engaging the accepted electronic component.

4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the securing device is a biased pin for engaging the accepted electronic component.

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5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 4, wherein the biased pin is biased by a captured coil spring configured and arranged so as to disengage upon opening the cover.

6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the cover is a removable panel cover.

7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the cover is a rotating panel door.

8. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the accepted electronic component is a drive.

9. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for securing an electronic component, comprising:

a frame including a pair of spaced apart brackets for slidably accepting an electronic component therein;

a cover connected to the frame being configured so as to permit access to the accepted electronic component; and

a securing device mounted to the frame, for engaging the accepted electronic component within the frame;

wherein operation of the cover automatically causes the securing device to engage the accepted electronic component upon closing the cover and release the securing device from engagement upon opening the cover;

wherein the securing device is a spring lever including a protrusion for engaging the accepted electronic component.

10. (Original) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the securing device extends through the frame into engagement with a corresponding structure included in the accepted electronic component.

11. (Cancelled)

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12. (Original) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the securing device is a biased pin for engaging the accepted electronic component.

13. (Original) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the biased pin is biased by a captured coil spring configured and arranged so as to disengage upon opening the cover.

14. (Original) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the cover is a removable panel cover.

15. (Original) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the cover is a rotating panel door.

16. (Original) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the accepted electronic component is a drive.

17. (Original) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the accepted electronic component is selected from the group consisting of: a floppy drive, a Digital Video Disc drive, a hard drive, an optical drive, and a CD ROM drive.

18. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for securing an electronic component within a chassis, comprising:

a frame including a pair of spaced apart brackets for slidably accepting an electronic component therein;

a cover mounted to the frame being configured so as to permit access to the accepted electronic component; and

means for securing the accepted electronic component in the frame;

wherein the securing means automatically engages the accepted electronic component upon closing the cover and release the securing device from engagement upon opening the cover;

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wherein the securing means is at least one of a spring lever including a protrusion for engaging the accepted electronic component and a biased pin for engaging the accepted electronic component.

19. (Original) The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the accepted electronic component is a drive.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (New) An apparatus for securing an electronic component, comprising:

a frame configured to removably accept an electronic component therein;

a cover connected to the frame, said cover being configured so as to permit access to the accepted electronic component; and

a securing device mounted to at least one of the frame and the cover, the securing device being movable between an engaging position wherein the securing device is capable of engaging the electronic component when the component is accepted in the frame, and a releasing position wherein the securing device is capable of releasing the electronic component when the component is accepted in the frame;

wherein the securing device is biased toward the releasing position;

wherein the securing device is configured so that closing the cover moves the securing device into the engaging position and opening the cover moves the securing device toward the releasing position.